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ADDITIONAL REINFORCEMENT IN LATIN AMERICA

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Section I - Request

The United States National Student Association (USNSA) respectfully requests a grant from the Foundation for Youth and Student Affairs in the amount of six thousand two hundred dollars (\$6,200) for the purpose of increasing its present communication and cooperation with national unions of students and youth organizations in Latin America.

Section II - Purpose

USNSA has, for a number of years, maintained a staff member, the Assistant for Latin American Affairs, whose task is solely the promotion of understanding and brotherhood between the students of the United States and the students of Latin America. It has often been found that one person is not sufficient to fulfill this very large function. A recent increase in the activity of student groups of both democratic and non-democratic nature has multiplied this problem. A visit to various centers in Latin America reveals the large number of which students and youth groups have been the initiators and/or the sustainers of activities which have both national and international importance. With this in mind, it has been found necessary to take on a second staff person for Latin American affairs.

One of the major goals of the Association, as stated in its present constitution is "to promote international understanding and fellowship." In having USNSA representatives communicating with the youth and student groups in Latin America and working in the countries of Latin America, we are able to establish personal contacts that are important to the close relationships which we wish to have with the national unions of students.

Section III - Program

USNSA is continually invited to attend as observers at many meetings of Latin American student and youth groups because of the close relationships that have always existed between our organization and the organizations of Latin America. One of the purposes this grant will serve is to make funds available to attend the various meetings to which we are invited. They will also be used for the purpose of enabling our representative to visit the university centers of Latin America at times other than when student functions are being held. This enables our representatives to better understand actual situations and allows sufficient time for the development of bilateral cooperation between USNSA and other organizations.

Through our representatives to the countries of Latin America, we are able to provide USNSA campuses with first-hand information pertaining to the problems of higher education and the needs of each student community. Documentation, coming from representatives, has proved also to be very helpful to participants in the International Student Relations Seminar sponsored annually by USNSA. The entire service that the International Commission provides to the constituents of USNSA is greatly enhanced by material forwarded to us by our representatives.

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Another area in which we have been able to utilize our representatives is that of selection of participants for the Foreign Student Leadership Project. Each year there are 150 to 200 applicants for this Project, of which only 15 to 20 are selected to participate. In the past, the persons who have been contacted by our representatives have been far superior to those who have come without interviews prior to selection. The Foreign Student Leadership Project is one of the major projects of USNSA, and because of this we feel that personal contacts and interviews for the Project are very important.

The Tenth International Student Conference will be held during the Summer of 1962. We feel that it is highly essential that prior to the Tenth ISC the Association has a full understanding of student and youth situations in Latin America and has, as much as possible, established a personal relationship with those organizations which will be sending representatives.

Section IV - Personnel

The additional Assistant for Latin American Affairs is Mr. Robert Aragon. Mr. Aragon will be working in cooperation with Mr. Joseph Love who has been our Assistant for Latin American Affairs since September, 1961.

Mr. Aragon is a graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles. He participated in the Seventh International Student Relations Seminar (1959) and held the position of Assistant for Latin American Affairs from September, 1959 to December, 1959. In December, 1959 he was obliged by the draft to resign his position and serve in the United States Army. He served in the Army from 1959 to 1961. In September, 1961 Mr. Aragon undertook the study of Law at Loyola University until coming to work for the Association in January of 1962. He speaks fluent Spanish. In order for Mr. Aragon to serve in this position, it is necessary for the Association to provide a salary, which has been included in this Prospectus.

Section V - Period of Grant

The funds requested in this Prospectus will be used to offset expenses incurred between January 1, 1962 and September 30, 1962.

Section VI - Tax-Exempt Status

USNSA has been granted tax-exempt status as a non-profit, educational organization under the appropriate sections of the Internal Revenue Code.